

PATENT

a plurality of spaced apart cylindrical rings positioned along a longitudinal axis, each of the cylindrical rings having a plurality of undulating elements in the form of a repeating pattern of substantially U-shaped members; and

a plurality of connecting members for connecting adjacent cylindrical rings; and

the cylindrical rings being positioned relative to each other so that the substantially U-shaped members of adjacent cylindrical rings are out of phase[.];

the cylindrical rings having a delivery diameter and an implanted diameter so that as the cylindrical rings are expanded from the delivery diameter to the implanted diameter at least some of the substantially U-shaped members project radially outwardly.

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[33.] ¹~~26.~~ (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32] ¹~~25,~~ wherein at least some of the connecting members are substantially parallel to each other.

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[34.] ¹~~27.~~ (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32] ¹~~25,~~ wherein the cylindrical rings and connecting members are formed from a single piece of hollow tubing.

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[35.] ¹~~28.~~ (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32] ¹~~25,~~ wherein the substantially U-shaped members have a curved portion having a substantially uniform radius of curvature.

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28, [36.] ~~29~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [35]
wherein at least some of the curved portions of the
substantially U-shaped members deform when the stent is expanded
from [a] the delivery diameter, to [a] the larger implanted
5 diameter, the deformed curved portions projecting radially
outwardly as the stent is expanded to the larger implanted
diameter.

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29, [37.] ~~30~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [36]
wherein the stent has a first end and a second end, at least
some of the curved portions of the substantially U-shaped members
forming the first end and the second end project radially outwardly
5 when the stent is expanded from the delivery diameter to the larger
implanted diameter.

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28, [38.] ~~31~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32]
wherein the cylindrical elements and the connecting members are
formed from a flat sheet of material.

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28, [39.] ~~32~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32]
wherein the stent is formed from a metal alloy.

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32, [40.] ~~33~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [39]
wherein the metal alloy is taken from the group of metal alloys
[including] comprising stainless steel and nickel-titanium.

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1 [41.] ~~34~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32]
25, wherein the connecting members between adjacent cylindrical
elements are substantially the same length.

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1 [42.] ~~35~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32]
25, wherein the plurality of U-shaped members have substantially
the same size and shape.

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1 [43.] ~~36~~. (Amended) The intravascular stent of claim [32]
25, wherein at least five cylindrical elements are interconnected.

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[44.] ~~37~~. (Amended) An intravascular stent for expanding
and implanting in a body lumen, comprising:

a plurality of spaced-apart cylindrical rings
positioned along a longitudinal axis, each of the cylindrical rings
5 having a plurality of undulating elements in the form of a
repeating pattern of substantially U-shaped members;

each of the substantially U-shaped members having a
pair of sides connected by a curved portion; [and]

a plurality of struts for connecting adjacent
10 cylindrical rings; and

the cylindrical rings being positioned relative to
each other so that the substantially U-shaped members of adjacent
cylindrical rings are out of phase[.] ;

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